

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 Ninth Street Sacramento, California 95814

Main website: www.energy.ca.gov**NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION****REVISIONS TO THE CALIFORNIA BUILDING
ENERGY EFFICIENCY STANDARDS
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 24, PART 1 and PART 6
(CALIFORNIA ENERGY CODE)****Nonresidential Acceptance Testing Certification Rulemaking
California Energy Commission
DOCKET NO. 12-BSTD-2
September 5, 2012**

Notice is hereby given that the California Energy Commission proposes to adopt changes to the Building Energy Efficiency Standards contained in the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 24, Part 6 (also known as the California Energy Code) and associated administrative regulations in Part 1. The proposed amended standards, called the "Nonresidential Acceptance Testing Certification," will go into effect in 2014.

The Energy Commission has prepared this Notice of Proposed Action (NOPA) and an Initial Statement of Reasons (ISOR) regarding the need for these proposed revisions. The Energy Commission has also published the Express Terms (45-Day Language) of the proposed amendment language. These documents and all the information on which the proposal is based can be obtained from the contact persons designated below or from the Energy Commission website at:

http://www.energy.ca.gov/title24/2013standards/provider_cert/documents/

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD AND HEARINGS

The Energy Commission's Energy Efficiency Commissioner will hold public hearings to receive public comments on the proposed action. At these hearings, any person may present statements or arguments relevant to the proposed regulatory action summarized below. The proposed language (45 Day Language Express Terms) is posted on the Energy Commission's website at:

http://www.energy.ca.gov/title24/2013standards/provider_cert/documents/

The 45 Day Language Express Terms are also available from the Energy Commission's High Performance Buildings and Standards Development Office (contact persons are listed later in this NOPA). The Commissioner Hearings to discuss the 45-Day Language are scheduled as follows:

MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2012
9:00 a.m.
CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
Hearing Room A
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California
(Wheelchair Accessible)

Audio for the Energy Efficiency Commissioner Hearings will be broadcast over the Internet. For details, please go to: www.energy.ca.gov/webcast.

If you have a disability and require assistance to participate in these hearings, please contact Lou Quiroz at (916) 654-5146 at least 5 days in advance.

A hearing before the Energy Commission, for possible final adoption of the 45 Day Language Express Terms will be held on the date below; however, if the Energy Commission decides to make substantive changes to the Express Terms through 15 Day Language, the public hearing may be continued to a later noticed date.

**PROPOSED ADOPTION DATE – ENERGY
COMMISSION HEARING**

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2012
10 a.m.
CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
Hearing Room A
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California
(Wheelchair Accessible)

Audio for the November 14, 2012 ENERGY COMMISSION HEARING will be broadcast over the Internet. For details, please go to: www.energy.ca.gov/webcast.

If you have a disability and require assistance to participate in these hearings, please contact Lou Quiroz at (916) 654-5146 at least 5 days in advance.

If the Energy Commission decides to propose 15 Day Language modifications to the Express Terms, a separate notice of the adoption hearing for the 15 Day Language will be provided.

The public comment period for this NOPA will be from September 21, through 10:00 a.m. on November 14, 2012. Any interested person may submit written comments on the proposed amendments. Regarding the Energy Efficiency Commissioner and Adoption Hearings, the Energy Commission appreciates receiving written comments at the earliest possible date: for the October 1, 2012 hearing, please provide written comments by September 24, 2012; for the November 14, 2012 Adoption Hearing, please provide written comments by November 7, 2012. However, written

comments will still be accepted at the adoption hearing if they are received by 10:00 a.m. on November 14, 2012. Written comments must be emailed to Docket@energy.ca.gov or mailed or delivered to the following address (emailing is preferred):

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
Attention: Docket No. 12-BSTD-2
Dockets Office
1516 Ninth Street, MS-4
Sacramento, CA 95814

All written comments must contain the official number of the proceeding “Docket No. 12-BSTD-2,” prominently displayed on the first page. When comments are emailed on behalf of an organization, the comments should be a scanned copy of the original on the organization’s letterhead and include a signature of an authorized representative.

Written Comments may also be filed electronically by emailing Joe.Loyer@energy.ca.gov or FAXing them to (916) 654-4304, as long as they are received no later than November 14, 2012 at 10:00 a.m.

Oral comments may be made at the Energy Efficiency Commissioner hearing (October 1). In addition, oral comments may be made at the November 14 Full Commission Adoption Hearing. **The Commission requests that oral comments be limited to summaries of previously-submitted written comments.**

POTENTIAL MODIFICATIONS TO THE TEXT OF THE REGULATIONS

Interested persons should be aware that any of the provisions of the amendments under consideration by the Energy Commission could be substantively changed as a result of public comment, staff recommendations, or discussions at the Energy Efficiency Commissioner or Full Commission Hearings. Changes could be made to add additional requirements, remove proposed requirements, or refer to subsequent development of language for the Building Energy Efficiency Standards compliance manuals developed pursuant to Public Resources Code section 25402.1, subd. (e). Moreover, changes to the proposed regulations not indicated in the express terms could be considered if they improve the clarity or effectiveness of the regulations. If the Energy Commission makes substantive changes to the 45 Day Language Express Terms that a reasonable person could anticipate as being within the scope of this NOPA, including those described above, it will make the full text of the modified amendments available to the public at least 15 days before adoption, as required by Government Code 11346.8. (Changes outside the scope of the NOPA must be made in new 45 day language.)

To be notified of any modifications, you must submit written oral comments in accordance with the instructions above, or request that you be notified of any modifications, by submitting a request, no later than November 12, 2012, to: Joe.Loyer@energy.ca.gov.

AUTHORITY AND REFERENCE

The Energy Commission proposes to adopt the Express Terms under the authority granted by Public Resources Code Sections 25213, 25402(a)-(b), 25402.1, 25402.4, 25402.5, 25402.8 and 25910.

INFORMATIVE DIGEST

A. Sections Affected

The sections affected are found in Title 24, Part 1 and Title 24, Part 6, and include sections 10-102, 10-103, 120.5, and 130.4. New definitions are added to 10-102. Within section 10-103, the Energy Commission proposes to add sections 10-103A and 10-103B. Sections 120.5 and 130.4 are each amended with new requirements.

B. Summary of Existing Laws and Regulations; Policy Overview

Public Resources Code Sections 25402 and 25402.1 were enacted in the 1970s as part of the enabling legislation establishing the Energy Commission and its basic mandates. These sections require the Energy Commission to adopt, implement, and periodically update energy efficiency standards for both residential and nonresidential buildings. In addition, Public Resources Code Section 25910 directs the Commission to adopt standards for the minimum amount of additional insulation installed in existing buildings. Senate Bill (SB) 639 (Statutes of 1993) added Section 25402.5, which expressly directs the Commission to consider both new and replacement, and both interior and exterior, lighting devices when adopting building standards. SB 5X (Statutes of 2001) added subsection (c) to Section 25402.5 to clarify and expand the Commission's authority to adopt standards for outdoor lighting.

The Global Warming Solutions Act (Assembly Bill (AB) 32, Núñez, Chapter 488, Statutes of 2006) has been the foundation of California's efforts over the past five years to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG); AB 32 requires that by 2020 the state reduce its GHG emissions to the level that existed in 1990. *Improving the energy efficiency of existing residential and commercial buildings is the single most important activity to reduce greenhouse gas emissions that result from electricity and natural gas use.* The Energy Commission's 2007 edition of the Integrated Energy Policy Report (IEPR), which is California's official statement of the state's energy policy, concludes that climate change is the single most important environmental and economic challenge of the century, that greenhouse gas emissions are the largest contributors to climate change, and that

California's ability to slow the rate of greenhouse gas emissions will depend first on energy efficiency.

Similarly, the California Long-Term Energy Efficiency Strategic Plan (2008) adopted by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) identifies the importance of the Energy Commission's building energy efficiency standards in reaching the State's goal of having new homes be "zero net energy" by 2020 and of having commercial buildings be "zero net energy" buildings by 2030. ("Zero net energy" means that the buildings would be so energy efficient, and would where necessary have on-site energy production facilities (such as solar photovoltaic electricity-generating panels on rooftops), that the buildings would produce as least as much energy as they consumed from electricity and natural gas utility service.) The CPUC's Strategic Plan also discusses the Energy Commission's development of voluntary "Reach Standards" as a critical component of the Building Energy Efficiency Standards. In each update of the mandatory standards, the Reach Standards establish a "market pull strategy" to encourage the building industry to anticipate that additional standards improvements will be coming in the following cycle, and for a substantial portion of newly constructed buildings to build to meet higher levels of efficiency than just what the mandatory standards require. This is accomplished by the Energy Commission's collaboration with the CPUC and with utility programs that provide incentives to builders who meet the Reach Standards. The voluntary Reach Standards appear in the State's California Green Building Standards Code (California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 11) and in other agencies' regulations and programs.

Governor Brown's Clean Energy Jobs Plan (2010) combines existing state energy policy with economic recovery and growth goals by focusing on developing renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies and creating more than half a million green jobs. In the area of building efficiency, the Governor's Plan calls for:

- Adopting stronger appliance standards for lighting, consumer electronics, and other products;
- Creating new efficiency standards for new buildings;
- Increasing public education and enforcement efforts so that the gains promised by California's efficiency standards are realized;
- Adopting a plan for achieving "zero-net-energy" homes and businesses;
- Making existing buildings more efficient, especially the half of California homes that were built before the advent of modern building standards; and
- Providing information to commercial investors and homebuyers by disclosing building energy consumption prior to building sale.

The Energy Commission's Integrated Energy Policy Report (2011) includes an energy efficiency chapter that emphasizes the zero net energy policy goals for the state's residential and nonresidential buildings. It articulates how the Building Energy Efficiency Standards, including Reach Standards, will be updated

periodically to attain the aggressive levels of energy efficiency required to make zero net energy buildings cost-effective for consumers.

Given the above, the broad objectives of this regulation are to ensure installed energy efficiency technology properly works resulting in the savings of money and energy, coupled with a decrease in pollution and green house gas emissions associated with energy generation.

C. Summary of the Proposed Regulations

Since 2005 Building Energy Efficiency Standards (California Code Regulations, Title 24, Part 6) have required that specific equipment and controls installed in nonresidential buildings be tested according to Energy Commission adopted “acceptance testing” protocols to demonstrate their proper installation before the building is approved for occupancy. Compliance documentation must be signed by both the Field Technician who completed the acceptance testing and the licensed person who is legally responsible for the installation under the Business and Professions Code. The current Standards do not specify qualifications or training that the Field Technician must meet to be authorized to complete the acceptance testing.

Studies and stakeholder comments provided to the Energy Commission and discussed below indicate that acceptance testing occurring in the field is currently inadequate. Because of inconsistent levels of training Field Technicians as a whole are not providing the assurances necessary that the installed systems are delivering the energy efficiencies and monetary savings expected by building owners and which are required by state law.

The proposed regulations create an independent third party certification and training program to ensure Field Technicians and their employers acquire minimal level of training and skill to verify nonresidential lighting controls and mechanical systems comply with existing energy efficiency building standards.

These newly proposed regulations will be amended to the 2013 Standards that were adopted by the Energy Commission in May, 2012. The combined 2013 Standards update will then be considered for approval by the Building Standards Commission in December, 2012.

COMPARABLE FEDERAL STATUTES OR REGULATIONS

There are no federal energy standards applicable to nonfederal buildings. (The current and proposed California building standards do, however, reference federal energy standards for particular *appliances*.)

CONSISTENCY AND COMPATIBILITY WITH EXISTING STATE REGULATIONS

There is no inconsistency or incompatibility with existing state regulations.

OTHER MATTERS PRESCRIBED BY STATUTE APPLICABLE TO THE ENERGY COMMISSION, OR TO ANY SPECIFIC REGULATION OR CLASS OF REGULATIONS PROPOSED FOR ADOPTION

All of the laws applicable to the proposed Standards, primarily Public Resources Code 25402 and 25402.1, are discussed above.

POTENTIAL MANDATES ON LOCAL AGENCIES OR SCHOOL DISTRICTS

The Energy Commission has determined that the proposed regulatory action would not impose a new mandate on local agencies. Existing law already obligates local building departments to serve as enforcement agencies for the Standards (see Public Resources Code sections 25402(a)-(b), 25402.1). Existing law also already requires compliance with the Standards as they apply to school buildings, and all other buildings, owned by local agencies (see California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part I, Administrative Regulations of Department of School Administration (DSA)). These proposed regulations will be administered by the California Energy Commission and will not impose any new requirements on local agencies or school districts.

ESTIMATE OF COSTS OR SAVINGS

See the Economic and Fiscal Analysis (Form 399), published simultaneously with this NOPA, for complete details. In sum:

- A. ***Total Statewide costs and benefits:*** The proposed regulations are estimated to deliver \$4.0 million in benefits at a cost of \$3.75 million, for a cost-effectiveness ratio of 1.07 to 1.
- B. ***Cost or Savings to any state agency:*** The proposed regulations are estimated to save the State Government \$40,000 at a cost of \$37,500 for a cost-effectiveness ratio of 1.07 to 1.
- C. ***Cost to any local agency required to be reimbursed under Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code:*** None. Additional expenditures of approximately \$112,500 in the current State Fiscal Year which are not reimbursable by the State pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution and Section 17500 et seq. of the Government Code because the proposed regulation provides for savings to each affected local government which will, at a minimum, offset any additional cost with a total savings of approximately \$120,000.
- D. ***Cost to any school district required to be reimbursed under Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government***

Code: None.

E. ***Other nondiscretionary cost or savings imposed on local agencies:*** No.

F. ***Cost or savings in federal funding to the state:*** No.

INITIAL DETERMINATION OF NO SIGNIFICANT STATEWIDE ADVERSE ECONOMIC IMPACT ON BUSINESSES

The Energy Commission has made an initial determination that the adoption of the proposed regulations will not have a significant statewide adverse economic impact on businesses, including the ability of California businesses to compete with business in other states, as is described in more detail below.

The basis for the Energy Commission's findings on economic impacts is that the proposed regulations are cost effective, and therefore will have a beneficial economic impact on the owners and occupants of buildings built to comply with the Standards. Evidence for the cost effectiveness of the proposed regulations are contained in the Initial Statement of Reasons and on the Commission's website and are summarized here.

The Energy Commission expects the costs to be charged to individuals and businesses for acceptance test provider certification to vary considerably, depending on which organization is offering the certification and for what purposes. For example, some organizations that provide extensive professional training to contractors for the design and installation of lighting and/or mechanical systems in nonresidential buildings may choose to integrate these new certification requirements into their existing training and certification programs. Other organizations may choose to provide training and certification specific to the requirements in these proposed regulations. Still other organizations may choose to provide certification testing without offering any training, under the assumption that most professionals providing these test services already have professional training that qualifies them to prove their competence, by way of a certification test, to provide the field verification services that are the subject of these proposed regulations. The Energy Commission has assumed a cost per certification that is commensurate with a 40-hour process of training for technicians (\$2,000) and an 8-hour process of training for technician supervisors (\$500). These cost estimates assume that a trainer is paid \$200 per hour, training five technicians or employers at a time, and that the certification entity is applying a 20% overhead rate to the training fees. The total first year costs of complying with these proposed regulations for all of the technicians and employers expected to become certified are expected to be approximately \$3.75 million.

The total statewide benefit from these proposed regulations is estimated conservatively at \$4 million per year, estimated by assuming that a small fraction of the total savings expected from the 2013 Standards update for nonresidential buildings are due to the proper installation of lighting and mechanical systems that are the subject of this proposed regulation for industry certification. This small fraction is derived from the

expectation that: (1) at least half (50%) of the energy savings from the 2013 Standards will be from the installation of lighting controls and mechanical systems, the same systems that require verification through the acceptance testing that is the subject of these regulations, and (2) verifying that these systems are installed and operating properly will improve the realized energy efficiency of these systems by at least one percent (1%). The estimate that at least 50% of the energy savings from the 2013 Standards will come from the installation of efficient lighting controls and mechanical systems was derived from the Energy Commission's review of the proposed updates to the Standards and detailed building energy modeling for each of these proposed updates in typical buildings across all sixteen climate zones used in the Standards development and compliance processes. The estimate that there will be at least a 1% improvement in the installation and operations of the lighting controls and mechanical systems once the acceptance test technicians are trained and certified to conduct these tests is a very conservative assumption that the certification processes included in these proposed regulations result in a workforce that is at least slightly better equipped to successfully inspect and test these systems, thereby finding problems that can be corrected to save energy.

These proposed regulations will not have an adverse statewide economic impact because the expected costs are largely one-time certification expenses, whereas the energy savings that will accrue will continue to be realized year after year. Even in the first year of implementation, the costs of these regulations will be more than offset by energy savings.

COST IMPACT ON REPRESENTATIVE PRIVATE PERSONS OR BUSINESSES

The Energy Commission has determined that energy bill savings substantially in excess of compliance costs will be received by all private persons and businesses directly affected by the proposed Standards. Initial costs for all businesses are estimated at \$500 and for individuals at \$2000 with no annual cost expected over the life (15 years) of the proposed regulations. These costs to become certified Acceptance Test Technicians and Acceptance Test Employers will enable these individuals and businesses to be qualified for inspection and testing jobs that they would otherwise not be able to obtain. The Energy Commission believes that the certification costs that will result from these proposed regulations will be offset by the income made by completing the acceptance testing jobs as required in Title 24, Part 6.

ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFECTS OF THE PROPOSED STANDARDS ON BUSINESSES, SMALL BUSINESSES, AND JOBS AND BUSINESS EXPANSION, ELIMINATION, OR CREATION

A. Business Report

The proposed regulations require that each business that applies for and gains approval to be an Acceptance Test Technician Certification Provider submit an

annual report to the Energy Commission. This annual report will summarize the training and certification activities conducted by the Certification Provider over the course of the year. Requiring this annual report enables the Energy Commission to determine if each Certification Provider is adequately completing its obligations as specified in these proposed regulations. Each Certification Provider benefits from this requirement because it creates fair competition in the marketplace by requiring the same level of reporting for all Certification Providers, and these reports provide the requisite information to the Energy Commission for its determination that each Certification Provider is adequately training and certifying acceptance test technicians and their employers. This reporting requirement is only placed on businesses that choose to apply for and become Acceptance Test Technician Certification Providers. The Energy Commission preliminarily determines it is necessary for the health, safety, and welfare of the people of the state that these regulations apply to business.

B. Small Businesses

Small businesses that inspect and verify the operational performance of lighting controls or mechanical systems in nonresidential buildings will, under the proposed regulations, be required to gain certification of their ability to complete the Title 24, Part 6 installation inspections and acceptance testing for these systems. The costs to become certified for these small businesses is expected to be a one-time cost of approximately \$2,000 for each technician and \$500 for each employer overseeing technicians. The Energy Commission anticipates that these costs will be passed on to the building owners requiring the services of these small businesses through increased fees for these inspection services. Small businesses choosing to become certified as specified in the proposed regulations also gain an advantage in the marketplace because, once there are a sufficient number of certified acceptance test technicians in the state, building owners complying with Title 24, Part 6 will be required to employ certified technicians to complete the lighting controls and mechanical system installation inspections and acceptance tests.

C. Results of the economic impact assessment

The Energy Commission has made a preliminary assessment on whether, and if so to what extent, the proposed Standards will affect the following:

1. The creation or elimination of jobs within the State of California.

Jobs will not be created or eliminated because the proposed standards create a certification program to ensure existing technicians are appropriately trained and certified by primarily existing organizations. The standards themselves are neutral as to whether people or entities enter the inspection and certification industry.

2. The creation of new businesses or the elimination of existing businesses

within the State of California.

Businesses will not be created or eliminated because the proposed standards create a certification program to ensure existing technicians are appropriately trained and certified by primarily existing organizations. The standards themselves are neutral as to whether people or entities enter the inspection and certification industry.

3. The expansion of businesses currently doing business with the State of California.

It is possible that businesses currently providing energy efficiency compliance-related services in California will expand.

- D. Benefits of the proposed standards to the health and welfare of California residents, to worker safety, and to the state's environment.

The proposed regulations will provide building owners with a high quality verification of the energy saving features of their buildings' lighting and mechanical components therefore ensuring the building owner is obtaining the benefits of their investment in various technologies. The people of California benefit as less energy is used, eliminating the need for development of additional generation and the environmental damage associated with such energy projects including greenhouse gas emissions. In addition, by developing a rigorous training and certification program the state will benefit by increasing the awareness among the building industry of the economic and environmental value of energy efficiency that may lead to over all gains in energy efficiency in other areas of building systems.

- E. Use of Reports: The proposed regulations require that each business that applies for and gains approval to be an Acceptance Test Technician Certification Provider submit an annual report to the Energy Commission. This annual report will summarize the training and certification activities conducted by the Certification Provider over the course of the year. Requiring this annual report enables the Energy Commission to determine if each Certification Provider is adequately completing its obligations as specified in these proposed regulations. Each Certification Provider benefits from this requirement because it creates fair competition in the marketplace by requiring the same level of reporting for all Certification Providers, and these reports provide the requisite information to the Energy Commission for its determination that each Certification Provider is adequately training and certifying acceptance test technicians and their employers. This reporting requirement is only placed on businesses that choose to apply for and become Acceptance Test Technician Certification Providers.

INITIAL DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON HOUSING COSTS

The Energy Commission has made an initial determination that the proposed Standards would have no significant effect on housing costs because the standard only applies to non-residential buildings and creates a certification program to ensure competency of test inspectors.

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

The Energy Commission must determine that no reasonable alternative considered by it or that has otherwise been identified and brought to its attention would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed, would be as effective and less burdensome to private persons than the proposed action, or would be more cost-effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provision of law. The Energy Commission has made a preliminary determination that no reasonable alternative considered by it, or that has otherwise been identified and brought to its attention, would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed, would be as effective and less burdensome to private persons than the proposed action, or would be more cost-effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provision of law. The information in the record indicates the proposed standards would result in little cost to small business or the state because the proposed standards enhance an already existing inspection process by including additional training and quality control. While building owners and others using the services of the certified acceptance test technicians may incur additional minimal cost due to the program, that cost will be offset by energy savings from correctly functioning and certified electrical and mechanical systems. The Energy Commission's preliminary determination is that the overall benefit to the state in reduced energy consumption and pollution associated with energy production offset the overall costs of the program.

AVAILABILITY OF RULEMAKING DOCUMENTS

All of the information on which the proposed regulations are based is contained in the rulemaking file, which is available for public review at the Commission's Dockets Office, by contacting the persons named below, or on this website:

http://www.energy.ca.gov/title24/2013standards/provider_cert/documents/

If the proposed regulations are adopted, then interested parties may obtain a copy of the Final Statement of Reasons once it has been prepared by going to this website, or by making a written request to the contact person named below.

ENERGY COMMISSION CONTACT PERSON FOR PROCEDURAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE QUESTIONS

Questions on procedural and administrative issues should be addressed to:

Joe Loyer

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
1516 Ninth Street, MS-25
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 651-2915
Email: Joe.Loyer@energy.ca.gov

CONTACT PERSON FOR SUBSTANTIVE AND TECHNICAL QUESTIONS

Martha Brook
CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
1516 Ninth Street, MS-37
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 654-4086
Email: Martha.Brook@energy.ca.gov

Backup:
Justin Regnier
CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
1516 Ninth Street, MS-37
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 654-4196
Justin.Regnier@energy.ca.gov

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Energy Commission's Public Adviser's Office provides the public assistance in participating in Energy Commission proceedings. If you want information on how to participate in this forum, please contact the Public Adviser's Office at PublicAdviser@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-4489 (toll free at (800) 822-6228).

If you have a disability and require assistance to participate, please contact Lou Quiroz at Lou.Quiroz@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-5146 at least five days in advance.

Media inquiries should be sent to the Media and Public Communications Office at mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-4989.

Remote Attendance

You may participate in this meeting through WebEx, the Energy Commission's online meeting service. Presentations will appear on your computer screen, and you may listen to audio via your computer or telephone. Please be aware that the meeting may be recorded.

To join a meeting:

VIA COMPUTER: Go to <https://energy.webex.com> and enter the unique meeting number: **928 380 279**. When prompted, enter your name and the following meeting password: **cec@1516**

The “Join Conference” menu will offer you a choice of audio connections:

1. To call into the meeting: Select "I will call in" and follow the on-screen directions.
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3. To have WebEx call you: Enter your phone number and click "Call Me."
4. To listen over the computer: If you have a broadband connection, and a headset or a computer microphone and speakers, you may use VoIP (Internet audio) by going to the Audio menu, clicking on “Use Computer Headset,” then “Call Using Computer.”

VIA TELEPHONE ONLY (no visual presentation): Call 1-866-469-3239 (toll-free in the U.S. and Canada). When prompted, enter the unique meeting number: **928 380 279**. International callers may select their number from <https://energy.webex.com/energy/globalcallin.php>

VIA MOBILE ACCESS: Access to WebEx meetings is now available from your mobile device. To download an app, go to www.webex.com/overview/mobile-meetings.html.

If you have difficulty joining the meeting, please call the WebEx Technical Support number at 1-866-229-3239.

FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS

If the proposed amendments are adopted, the Energy Commission will prepare a Final Statement of Reasons. This document will update the Initial Statement of Reasons and respond to public comments. This document can be obtained after the conclusion of the rulemaking by contacting Joe Loyer at (916) 654-4811 or by email at Joe.Loyer@energy.ca.gov.

WEBSITE INFORMATION

This NOPA, the Initial Statement of Reasons, the Express Terms, any 15-day language issued subsequently, and all other relevant rulemaking documents can be accessed at the Energy Commission’s website at: http://www.energy.ca.gov/title24/2013standards/provider_cert/documents/

Mail Lists: 50, 52, 53, 480 and 7434

Mailing Date: September 10, 2012